

Message Text

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44

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PC-15 USIA-15 IO-13 DODE-00 AGR-20

ACDA-19 INT-08 COME-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15

RSC-01 SCI-06 NASA-04 PA-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /211 W

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R 161230Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6364

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: DIORI - WILLIAMS DISCUSSIONS

1. PRESIDENTIAL COORDINATOR WILLIAMS MET WITH PRESIDENT DIORI EVENING SEPTEMBER 14 AT NIAMEY. DIORI STEERED DISCUSSION TOWARD FURTHER EXPOSITION OF SEVERAL MEDIUM-TERM PROJECTS HE HAD MENTIONED IN HIS SPEECH AT OUAGADOUGOU PIC CONFERENCE. THESE WERE RECONSTITUTION OF HERDS, UTILIZATION AGRICULTURAL BY-PRODUCTS TO PRODUCE ANIMAL FEED; AND FOOD FOR WORK TYPE SCHEME INVOLVING 25,000 YOUNG NIGERIEN YOUTH TO CONSTRUCT IRRIGATION CANALS, PONDS AND SMALL BARRAGES. DIORI SAID SUCH PROJECTS DID NOT REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY AND COULD BE IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY. HE ADDED THEY DO NOT REQUIRE FANCY EARTH-MOVING EQUIPMENT BUT COULD BE CARRIED OUT WITH SIMPLE TOOLS AND LABOR OF WHICH THERE IS PLENTY IN NIGER. ALL THAT IS NEEDED IS FUNDING TO PROVIDE PIPES AND PUMPS, SMALL MILLS TO GRIND GRAIN, HAND TOOLS AND THE LIKE. DIORI ALSO SAID HE HOPES TO OBTAIN FUNDS FROM INTERNATIONAL DONORS TO PURCHASE HEIFERS TO BEGIN RECONSTITUTING HERDS AND SETTLING NOMADS ON LAND.

2. DIORI SPOKE GLOWINGLY OF AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC CAPABILITY AND SPECIFICALLY NASA SCIENTISTS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT DROUGHT PROBLEMS WHO HAD VISITED NIGER. HE EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT DIRECTING

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SUCH EXPERTISE ON THE DROUGHT IN THE SAHEL MUST LEAD TO A SOLUTION.

HE ADDED THAT RAINS HAVE FOLLOWED CLOUD SEEDINGS BY QUOTE YOUR
COMPATRIOTS UNQUOTE, AND WHETHER OR NOT SUCH EFFORTS DIRECTLY
RESPONSIBLE; PEOPLE OF NIGER ARE ATTRIBUTING RECENT GOOD RAINS
TO AMERICANS.

DECON 9/16/74
BUCHE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NIAMEY02877
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730931/aaaaawub.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIORI - WILLIAMS DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: PFOR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005